

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 275308

560

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SIG-02 MMO-04

SAM-01 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 SSM-05 /097 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:EOJONES:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

SSM - MR. MC ANDREW

NEA/MS. GRIFFIN

NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS

NEA/ARN - MR. REUTHER

PM/SAS - MR. WINSHIP

----- 028762

O 091448Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 275308

USMISSION SINAI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 275308

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - NOVEMBER 8

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR NOVEMBER 8,
1976:

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHETHER THE ADMINISTRATION--THE OUTGOING
ADMINISTRATION--FEELS INHIBITED ABOUT LAUNCHING ANY NEW
MIDDLE EAST EFFORT? TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY: MUST ANY MAJOR
MIDDLE EAST ACTIVITY AWAIT THE INAUGURATION OF THE NEW
PRESIDENT?

A. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION
SPECIFICALLY. AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE I DO NOT THINK IT
IS DESIRABLE TO IDENTIFY THOSE QUESTIONS WHICH MAY BE
DECIDED AND THOSE WHICH MAY BE DEFERRED. SO WITHOUT ANY
REFERENCE TO YOUR QUESTION, OR TO ANY OTHER SPECIFIC
FOREIGN POLICY QUESTION, I THINK I WOULD SAY THAT IN
GENERAL THE STATE DEPARTMENT WILL DO ITS UTMOST TO AVOID
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 275308

PREEMPTING THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S FLEXIBILITY FROM
MAKING DECISIONS AFTER IT TAKES OFFICE ON ISSUES WHICH IT
MIGHT WANT TO REVIEW.

Q. SAY THAT AGAIN.

A. WITHOUT ADDRESSING ANYTHING SPECIFIC, WHAT I HAVE
SAID IS THAT IN GENERAL, WE WILL DO OUR UTMOST TO AVOID

PREEMPTING THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S FLEXIBILITY FROM MAKING DECISIONS ON ISSUES WHICH IT MIGHT WANT TO REVIEW AFTER IT TAKES OFFICE. AND THIS IS WHAT IS REFLECTED AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SECRETARY'S INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL POSTS, AS WE SAID LAST WEEK.

Q. WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE QUESTION MARVIN ASKED, THOUGH? ARE YOU (INAUDIBLE)?

A. I AM NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. BUT THIS IS, IN GENERAL, THE GUIDELINE THAT WE ARE FOLLOWING.

Q. WELL, I'LL TURN IT AROUND: IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU SEE DEVELOPING IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAT COULD REQUIRE ATTENTION WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS?

A. TWO MONTHS IS A LONG TIME IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BUT AS OF TODAY, I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY INITIATIVE. BUT I AM NOT PRECLUDING IT.

Q. I AM TOLD THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE SOME COMMENT ON THIS STORY BY FINNEY, IN THE NEW YORK TIMES THIS MORNING, SAYING THAT NAVY AIDS NORTHRUP IN BID TO SELL IRAN ON NEW JET MODEL--ESPECIALLY SINCE IT IS ULTIMATELY THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT HAS TO DECIDE WHETHER SUCH SALES SHOULD GO FORWARD OR NOT.

A. I CAN CONFIRM THAT THERE IS SUCH A PROPOSAL AND IT IS NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN THE SAME INTERAGENCY PROCESS THAT WOULD APPLY TO ANY OTHER SIMILAR PROPOSAL OF THIS ORDER. BUT NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 275308

Q. IS IT NOT THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT HAS TO MAKE THE FINAL DECISION?

A. I THINK THERE IS AN INTERAGENCY GROUP THAT CONSIDERS SUCH APPLICATIONS, AND WITHIN THAT PROCESS VARIOUS AGENCIES MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS. BUT THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, I THINK, ALL MAKE THEIR POSITIONS KNOWN. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE275308
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EOJONES:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760417-0460
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761166/aaaacfao.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - NOVEMBER 8 FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR NOV
TAGS: PFOR
To: TEHRAN ABU DHABI ALGIERS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006